

SCOPE



**MONONA/MADISON (WI)
BRANCH**

**Monona/Madison Branch
Newsletter**

JANUARY 2024

TUESDAY, January 23

6:30 p.m.: Social Time on Zoom

7 p.m. Program: Francine Hirsch, PhD., Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor of History, UW-Madison “Russia’s War on Ukraine.” I am a historian of Modern Europe with a specialization in Russia and the Soviet Union. My research and teaching interests include Russian and Soviet History, Modern European History, Comparative Empires, the History of Human Rights, and Russian-American Engagement.



My second book, *Soviet Judgment at Nuremberg: A New History of the International Military Tribunal After World War II* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2020) presents the first complete history of the Nuremberg Trials. Drawing on thousands of documents from the former Soviet archives, it reveals the unexpected contribution of Stalin’s Soviet Union to the International Military Tribunal and to the postwar development of international law. My first book, *Empire of Nations: Ethnographic Knowledge and the Making of the Soviet Union* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2005) examined the role of ethnographers and other former imperial experts in the formation of the Soviet Union. *Empire of Nations* received the Herbert Baxter Adams Prize of the American Historical Association, the Wayne S. Vucinich Book Prize of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, and the Council For European Studies Book Award.

I have recently launched a new book project on the history of Russian-American entanglement, which will look at international relations through the lenses of economics, culture, science, and international law. Education: Ph.D., Princeton M.A., Princeton B.A., Cornell

ZOOM: Kleo will send out Zoom invitations on Sunday night. In the past you could come in early without Kleo, the host, and just visit. She now will use a waiting room for our general meetings and you will see the message “The host will admit you” when you open your zoom invite. Kleo would appreciate you signing in by 6:45 and plans to let people in starting 6:30 so you can visit, but she would like you to be signed in by 6:50. The speaker will start precisely at 7 and she hopes to have everyone admitted who is coming. Kleo’s cell phone is 765-469-1936 if you need to call her for any reason the night of the meeting. If you haven’t zoomed for a while and need a “practice” session, contact Kleo in next couple weeks.

Other branches including Beaver Dam, Fort Atkinson, Janesville, and Tomah as well as the State Board have been invited so expect to see some unfamiliar faces who are also interested in our speaker. The meeting will be recorded and sent out to our members and recording will be available until next meeting.

PRESIDENTS’ CORNER, Sally Keyel & Pat Ruppert

As the old year ends and we look forward to 2024, we celebrate the events and programs that enlightened and entertained us in 2023. Gratitude goes to those committee members who put their time and energy into making all of this happen. Our holiday luncheon and auction were both a success, earning a total of \$2,273. The Silent Auction earned \$1,627, the Live Auction earned \$500, and the book sale earned \$146. How nice to see all of those who supported AAUW through their attendance, contributions, and bids. Special thanks to Robby Sonzogni for coordinating the delicious luncheon, and to Sue Richter for stepping up to handle the auction. Maggie Winz, Carole Salinas, and Pat Phillips from other branches joined us for the Holiday Luncheon. We also heard from one of our NCCWSL attendees, speaking about her experience.

Be sure to join us for our January program to hear Dr. Francine Hirsch, Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor of History. She will be speaking about Russia’s War on the Ukraine.

Thanks to Stephanie Sorensen for volunteering to finish out the year as Recording Secretary. We really appreciate it!

MILESTONES

A shout out to member Marjorie Sutton for her role in helping out with the WI State Journal’s Empty Stocking fundraising.

Birthdays in January: Dorothy Haines, 3; Lucy Bautz, 6; Helen Sjolander, 6; Gail Stirr, 7; Mary Zupanc, 27; Percy Mather, 31



MEMBERSHIP & DIRECTORY UPDATES, Kleo Baruth Kritz & Lynn Christensen

We have one addition and some corrections you need to put into your directory.

Please add to your directory:

Susan Slattery (2013-14; 2023) 608-347-8107

BS Business Management, Cardinal Stritch

MS Nursing, UW-Madison

5109 Lake Mendota Dr,

Madison 53705

sbscnm@yahoo.com

June 8

Please update:

- Linda Voss's new email is linvoss22@gmail.com
- Bobbi White's new email is abwhite21843@gmail.com
- Reta Harring's new address is **5565 Tancho Drive, Room 226, Madison 53718** and phone is **608-318-0902**
- Ann Huggett's new address is **519 Commerce Drive, Room 236, Madison 53719** and phone is **608-827-3554**
- Mary Berg's new address is **718 Jupiter Drive, Madison 53718** **608-215-8154**
- Lynn Celley's land line is **608-222-2179** and yes 608-333-2179 is her cell despite being so similar.

FINANCIAL REPORT, Gail Stirr

December 31, 2023

Beginning Balance 12/1/23

\$8,615.72

- Holiday Luncheon \$75.00
- Silent Auction Event \$2,273.00 (\$2,173.00 profit; \$100 repaid to AAUW account)
- Total Income:** **\$2,348.00**

Advance for change @ Silent Auction \$100.00 (repaid to AAUW account in above deposit)

Maple Bluff Country Club luncheon \$1,099.81

Total Expenses: **\$1,199.81**

Balance 12/31/23 **\$9,763.91**

WOMEN'S HISTORY, Bobbi White

Mary Stevenson Cassatt (May 22, 1844-June 14, 1926) was an American painter and printmaker. She lived much of her adult life in France, where she first befriended Edgar Degas and later exhibited among the Impressionists. She often created images of the social and private lives of women with particular emphasis on the intimate bonds between mothers and children. Cassatt was born in Pennsylvania into favorable circumstances, one of seven children, of which two died in infancy. She grew up in an environment that viewed travel as integral to education; She spent five years in Europe visiting the capitals.



Even though her family objected to her becoming a professional artist, Cassatt began studying painting at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in Philadelphia at the age of fifteen, and continued her studies during the years of the American Civil War. Part of their concern may have been Cassatt's exposure to feminist ideas and the bohemian behavior of some of the male students. Impatient with the slow pace of instruction and the patronizing attitude of the male students and teachers, she decided to study the old masters on her own. Cassatt decided to end her studies (at that time, no degree was granted). She finally overcame her father's objections and in 1866, she moved to Paris, with her mother and family friends acting as chaperones. There she applied to study privately with masters. Cassatt augmented her artistic training with daily copying in the Louvre. The museum also served as a social meeting place for Frenchmen and American female students, who like Cassatt, were not allowed to attend cafes where the avant-garde socialized.

On trips to the countryside, the students drew from life, particularly the peasants going about their daily activities. In 1868 The French art scene was in a process of change as radical artists tried to break away from accepted Academic tradition; the Impressionists were in their formative years. Back to the United States in the late summer of 1870 Cassatt's father continued to resist her chosen vocation. She traveled to Chicago to try her luck but lost some of her early paintings in the Great 1870 Chicago Fire.

In 1877, she was invited by Edgar Degas to show her works with the impressionists. They tended to prefer open air painting and the application of vibrant color in separate strokes merging the results in an "impressionistic" manner. Cassatt admired Degas and felt comfortable with the Impressionists and joined their cause. Degas had considerable influence on Cassatt. She became extremely proficient in the use of pastels, eventually

creating many of her most important works in this medium. Friends began collecting the Impressionists on a grand scale. Much of their vast collection is now in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. She then moved away from Impressionism to a simpler, more straightforward approach. She began to



exhibit her works in New York galleries as well. After 1886, Cassatt no longer identified herself with any art movement and experimented with a variety of techniques. Cassatt's popular reputation is based on an extensive series of rigorously drawn, tenderly observed, yet largely unsentimental paintings and prints on the theme of the mother and child.

SCHOLARSHIPS, Liz Senseman

Update: Our branch has two endowed scholarship funds at National AAUW - #1569-Monona Branch 25th Anniversary and #1374-Research and Projects (from the old Madison branch). Each year the interest from these funds is combined with interest from other funds held at National, and awards are made in several areas. In past years it has been relatively easy to find out who received our money and what the awards were for. However this year has proved more problematic (the on-line site was changed this year). I have contacted National (phone and mail) and when I hear back I will hopefully be able to report on our recipients.

In the meantime I did a search of all recipients for 2023-2024 and found that this year there are two students attending UW Madison who received International Awards. Our funds have never been used for these types of awards in the past, and I doubt that either of these women benefited directly from our funds, but I thought it would be interesting to learn a little about them. The first is **Rachel Banda** who is from Malawi. She is pursuing a Master of Science degree in curriculum and instruction, and has had extensive experience in teaching. She founded a clinic in Malawi that seeks to support literacy education, especially in young women. She is in her second year of study at UW. **Gabriela Yepes-Rossel** is from Peru and is pursuing a PhD in theater, currently researching “Andean syncretic drama and performance from a gendered and decolonial perspective.”

There are two other women in Wisconsin receiving awards, one at medical school in Milwaukee and another at UW Eau Claire. If you are interested in learning more about the women who receive awards and fellowships from National AAUW each year the information can be found under the Fellowship and Grants menu. (You will need to log in using your membership ID to locate the correct search for 2023-24.) Once I learn who actually benefited from our two funds I will report back to the branch.

CALL FOR HELP FROM JANESVILLE BRANCH: We are arranging the details for our 4th annual Tech Savvy STEM Workshop to be held at UW-Whitewater on Sat., Mar. 9. If you want to help out, please let Carole Salinas (casalinas3767@gmail.com) or Kleo know as soon as possible.

AAUW REGIONAL CONVENTION, Kleo Baruth Kritz

“CELEBRATING AAUW: REACHING NEW HEIGHTS TOGETHER,”

Eight Wisconsin members journeyed to St. Louis for the AAUW Central States Regional Conference, to join 156 attendees from 16 states with 28 presenters and 42 member-led sharing/learning Swap Shops. CHOICES!! CHOICES!! CHOICES!! Our National CEO Gloria Blackwell was a keynote and at least 10 others from the National Board and National Committees attended.

Issues were diverse:

- The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) originated 100 years ago and has been ratified by $\frac{3}{4}$ of the states to be 28th Amendment, but it must be **Affirmed** by vote of House of Representatives. That has and could take a while.....
 - If not a Two-Minute Activist with National on Public Policy issues that matter to us, sign up so your voice can be heard <https://secure.everyaction.com/t79k4XW2qE6zElzj0xIIKA2>
Here's the link and will take you less than two minutes to fill out! Even if your Rep/Senator you are sending to will disagree with you, they need to hear your voice.
 - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion—All the AAUW meetings in Missouri from branch meetings to board meetings use an idea called Infusion/Inclusion in which a 10 minute activity is infused into the meeting that involves all the individuals present to promote inclusion.
 - National Bylaws will be put to a vote this year to encourage us more diverse and inclusive by eliminating the education requirement so people—note I did not say women—who believe in our mission can join.
1. The **A in American is not true** because we have international members
 2. The **U is not true** because we do accept members with associate degrees
 3. The **W is not true** because men can be members. (Our State President-Elect Deb Thiel was at the Regional with her husband Dick, who is a member of AAUW!!)

We can keep our name of AAUW, and all of us have every reason to be proud of our degrees. Yet there are talented people who believe in our mission who do not have degrees. Think of the YMCA, commonly called the Y these days. You can join even if you aren't Young, Male, and Christian. They have embraced diversity to become more inclusive and expand their organization.

NOTE: National will be making arrangements for people who do not like computers to vote with printed ballots.

- Gender Issues—In 2022 white women made 82 cents for \$1 a man makes with. Just today I got this email from National: A calculation comparing all women with earnings last year (including part-time and seasonal workers) found **women were paid a mere 78% of men's wages in 2022.**
- Reproductive and Health Issues for Women
- Not only was HERStory told by Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and

Sojourner Truth but Barbie, the Influencer, made her appearance dressed all in pink!

And we lodged at the Drury Hotel at the Arch, which was literally a block away, and I must comment on the Convention's Friday night Taste of St. Louis, which was a sugar high with famous items made in St. Louis for years: a hot pretzel, toasted ravioli with sauce (never heard of that before), a custard they swear by (though I think Culver's could give them a good run for their money), and the St. Louis gooey butter cake. The story is an absent-minded baker back in the '30s was making a batch of coffee cakes, tossed in the butter, got distracted, and tossed in the butter again. This was the Depression and being frugal decided to bake the batter anyway. The result is now legendary and looks like lemon bars but has a distinct taste. Needless to say it is calorie free when you are at a convention!

FROM STATE PRESIDENT, Maggie Winz

New Year's Greetings from Maggie

Wishing all of our AAUW members and friends a happy New Year 2024, with much Joy, Good Health, and Meaningful Experiences in the coming year.

Personally, I do wish for peaceful and diplomatic resolutions to the terrible wars and conflicts in the Ukraine, Gaza, and in 40 other countries worldwide. The conflicts, destruction, and loss of life breaks my heart. In addition to world events, many of us are mourning the loss of dear family and friends, as well as favorite entertainers and other celebrities. However, the most touching losses for me this past year were of two special icons who represent values we hold dear: Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, and Senator Herb Kohl. They both were advocates for equal justice, women's rights, and universal quality education.

Much has been written about Justice O'Connor, a brilliant and well thought of Supreme Court Justice, who paved the way for other women to sit on the nations highest court. We were all moved and saddened by her death, and grateful for her service and all she accomplished.

However the death of Senator Kohl affected me more personally. I first heard about him in the 1970's when my husband and I lived in a duplex in Milwaukee. The downstairs neighbor was a cashier at a Kohls grocery store in the area. She would tell us how the owner, Mr. Kohl, would visit each and every one of his grocery stores, and greet every employee on a regular basis. He always had a kind word, and would ask after their families.

My next encounter with Senator Kohl came in the early 1990's, when my school district nominated me for the prestigious Herb Kohl Award for excellence in teaching. As I was one of the recipients, I remember attending a dinner with the other teachers, and hearing Senator Kohl thank us for our work. My husband and I sat at a table with one of Senator Kohl's assistants who shared that the Senator was very surprised and actually dismayed at the celebrity status that he received in Washington, D.C. After all, he went there to do

good for our country, not to be given status and opportunities that his constituency wouldn't share. That impressed me.

The Kohl Award included \$1000 for each recipient, and an additional \$1000 for each of our schools. While the money would not be life changing for me, it was life affirming that someone so high in government would recognize and appreciate the work of an ordinary kindergarten teacher, which really meant that he recognized all teachers. Each year since then, I have received a holiday greeting card from the Senator, until this year. It was such an honor to be on his holiday greeting list, even though I never donated to his election campaigns.

Senator Kohl gave back to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and to our nation year after year, quietly and without fanfare. We need more leaders like him.

Today I honor Justice O'Connor and Senator Kohl for their vision and quiet, consistent work toward a strong democracy, for good governance, equal justice, women's rights, and strong public education.

My wish for 2024 is for us all to honor their legacy with our own quiet, consistent works and acts of inclusion, kindness and bravery.

Let's start the new year together with inspiration and hope for the future.

With my fondest regards, Maggie

The New Year 2024 is Here!

The Event: AAUW WI STATE CONVENTION 2024

The Hosts: District 3 (Geneva Lake, Kenosha, and Racine)

The Theme: AAUW: Architects of Our Future
The Place: Delta Hotel by Marriott Racine on edge of Mt. Pleasant

The Plan: Put on your calendar now!

The When: April 26-27, 2024

AAUW GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, November 28, 2023

7:00 Speaker: Kristina Gomez, M.A.;
Community Engagement Librarian, MPL
"Unite Against Book Bans: Standing Together in the Fight Against Censorship"

Welcome and Introduction of Guests: Pat Ruppert called the meeting to order with 22 members in person and two members on Zoom. She thanked the hostesses Jan Robertson, Linda Voss, Suzanne Poggio, and Wanda Nelson. Georgia Stilp introduced her friend Janice Cuellar.



Minutes of meeting October 24, 2023, Correction: Program should list Ellen Healey instead of Val Murphy ad Program VP.

Finance Report: Balance as of 11/28/23: \$8,340.72

Program: Donna Anderson and Ellen Healey: Any suggestions for programs are welcome.

Membership: Lynn Christensen and Kleo Baruth Kritz: Please respond to Kleo's email asking for emergency contact information. It will be kept confidential.

Educational Funds: Liz Senseman: Liz can't find out who received our scholarships but did find out that two UW-Madison students did (but not from our branch).

STEM: Donna Anderson said we would be volunteering to help Janesville/Fort Atkinson Tech Savvy. Any contacts for students would be appreciated.

DEI: Kleo Baruth Kritz and Mary Zupanc: Kleo stated tonight's program on books being banned for controversial topics on race and gender was a great example.

Fundraising: Val Murphy and Jan Robertson: They will resume researching fundraising trips after the holidays.

Newsletter: Sally Keyel: Deadline Jan. 3, 2024

Odyssey Meals: Kleo reported Odyssey was very pleased with our meal of 45 subs from Milio's on Odana plus free cookies provided by Milio's. We also purchased fruit. \$360 was raised by donation and final cost was \$379.74

New Business

- We are in need of a recording secretary. The job description is on the AAUW Monona/Madison website. <https://monona-madison-wi.aauw.net/>
- Request for funds to fund students to go to the Tech Savvy workshop at UW-Whitewater in March. A recommendation has been made to offer \$15 each to 7 students for a total of \$105. Kleo moved to offer this and Donna seconded. Motion was passed. Sally will ask Christina Outlay (IT Prof at Whitewater and on Maydm board) for recommendations for the scholarships. Mary Boyd said she would contact Sennet Middle School.
- Pat Ruppert suggested asking people who didn't participate in the book sale and who didn't donate or bid on items at our holiday luncheon, which are our major fundraisers, to make a donation to our scholarship fund. After discussion, it was decided to send a letter in the mail to our members in March, and Pat will compose it.
- Next event is December 2, 2023. This will be our holiday lunch and silent auction. We will have a NCCWSL attendee to give remarks during the lunch. There are bidding sheets available for the silent auction if you would like to take some to fill out in advance.

The morning literature group will meet on December 7th from 9:30- 11:30 at the Monona Public Library. The December book will be *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* by Christy Lefteri. Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted by, Sally Keyel, sub

CALENDAR

- **Jan. 5 at 1 p.m.: Bridge at St. Stephen's in Monona**
- **Jan. 17 at 7 p.m.: Wednesday Evening Book Club:** Host: Pat Ruppert or Zoom meeting. Reviewer: Kleo Baruth Kritz, *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver
- **Jan. 23: General Meeting via Zoom**
- **Jan. 25 at 9:30 a.m.: Morning Literature:** Leader: Lynn Celley. *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. Held at the Monona Library.
- **Feb. 3 at 6:30 p.m.: La Cuisine;** Host: Liz Senseman. Small Plates.
- **Feb. 8 at 1 p.m.: Board Meeting via Zoom**
- **Apr. 26-27: State Convention, Racine**

Co-presidents: Sally Keyel & Pat Ruppert; Membership: Lynn Christensen & Kleo Baruth Kritz; Newsletter: Sally Keyel website, www.monona-madison-wi.aauw.net



Make an Impact!
Join AAUW Legacy
Circle

Leave a Lasting Legacy